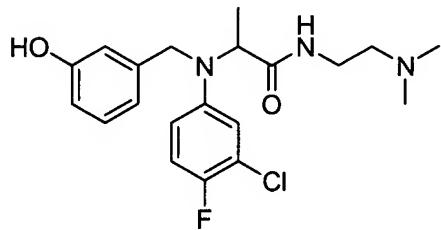


REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the instant application. The claims are subject to an Election Requirement as noted below. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in light of these remarks.

The Examiner states that the application contains claims directed to a generic formula that encompasses patentably distinct species, in particular the compounds claimed in Claims 6-7. The Examiner requires election of one of those specific compounds.

Applicants elect, without traverse, the following species (compound) of the formula:



N-2-(3-chloro-4-fluorophenyl)-N-1-[2-(dimethylamino)ethyl]-N-2-(3-hydroxybenzyl)alaninamide

This compound is Compound 6-6 in Table 4, on page 38 of the application as filed. Claims 1-9 encompass the elected species.

Applicants respectfully contend that the Examiner's restriction under 35 U.S.C. 112 has been addressed by the above election, and that Claims 1-9 are allowable and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If a telephonic communication with Applicants' representative will aid in the advancement of the prosecution of this application, please telephone the representative indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
David A. Muthard
Registration No. 35,297
Attorney for Applicants

Merck & Co., Inc.
P.O. Box 2000 - RY 60-30
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907
Telephone No. (732) 594-3903

Date: October 29, 2008